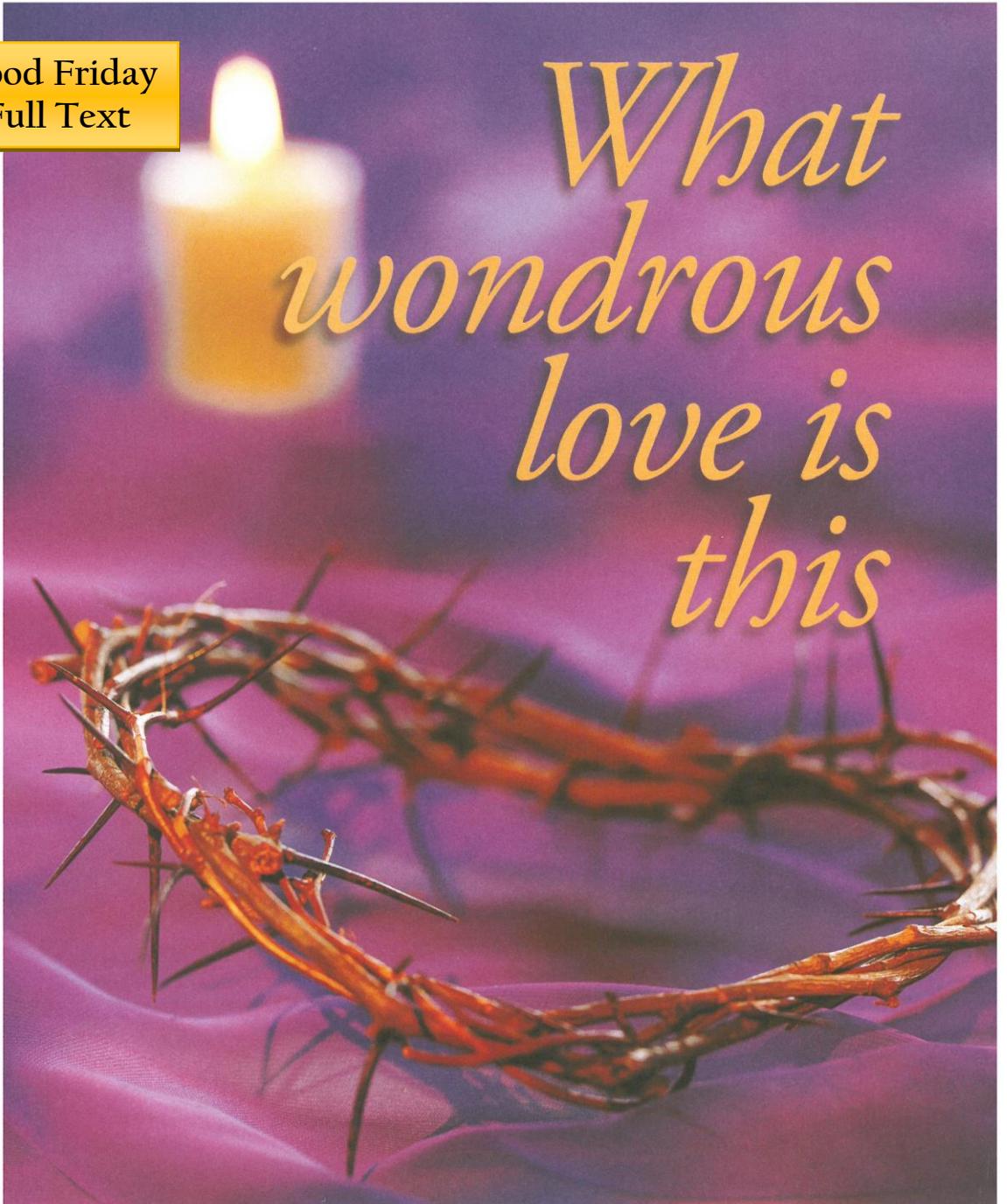


Good Friday
Full Text

*What
wondrous
love is
this*



On Good Friday, we continue our Holy Week journey through our Lord's darkest of days as we experience the Passion of Jesus Christ. Our scripture readings provide the Old Testament Prophecy and the fulfillment found in the New Testament for each of the seven shadows: betrayal, denial, aloneness, accusation, suffering, crucifixion, and death. During this service the altar will be stripped of its adornments and shrouded in black. We will leave the sanctuary in darkness. Christ has died. We await His Resurrection.

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church
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VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

☞ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ☞

Prelude

There Is a Green Hill Far Away ... arr. Kathy Dombroski

In the Garden ... arr. Kathy Dombroski

Memorial Bell Choir

Alicia Mickenberg, viola

WERE YOU THERE

A Tenebrae Service of Remembrance for Good Friday

As you enter this Holy space, please do so quietly and with a reverent heart.

Our purpose is to remember and respect the reason for gathering on this night.

There are seven candles lit at the beginning of the service. The candle in the center represents Jesus. As each candle is extinguished at the end of a section, lights in the sanctuary should also be turned off; the last sanctuary lights being turned off with the sixth candle. At the end, when the seventh candle is blown out, the sanctuary should be completely dark. Worshipers exit the church in darkness and silence.

Introduction

Todd

Tonight we remember the death of Jesus.

Without His death, there would be no resurrection.

Without understanding Good Friday, there would be no Easter.

This is a Good Friday "Tenebrae" service – one that dates back to early church history.

There are seven "shadows" which represent the seven stages of the events leading to Jesus' death.

As we acknowledge each stage, there will be scripture read – Old Testament prophecies and then Gospel narratives of the events – followed by time for silent prayer, and hymns to sing.

At the completion of each stage, we will extinguish and remove a candle, and dim the sanctuary lights.

At the completion of the service the altar will be made bare.

Our final task will be to drape the altar in black to symbolize the death of Our Lord.

Call to Worship

Vicky

L: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

L: Christ is the light of the world, and as Christians you *are* light and should leave darkness behind.

P: We will live like those who feel at home in the light.

L: Let us pray.

We huddle together in prayer to meet the dark and death. Can there be anything worse than waiting for death? Can there be anything worse than waiting with heavy hearts in the sure knowledge of what is to come? Can there be anything worse than wishing for what might have been, longing for what was, and yet, not knowing what is to be? With heavy hearts we turn to you in prayer, O God – for where else can we turn? The one we have loved can offer us comfort no more and our hearts are too heavy to even comfort ourselves. So come to us, God of Love. Let your Holy Spirit touch us and give us hope. Yes, give us hope for a better tomorrow, for an end to our turmoil and an end to the suffering of the One whom we love. O God, we want so much to look forward to tomorrow. Grace us with your presence as we agonize through this day. Hear our prayer, O God. Can you hear our prayer? Amen.

Hymn

We Sang Our Glad Hosannas

FWS 2111

1. We sang our glad hosannas and waved our branches high,
but some were silent, frowning, as Jesus rode on by.
They sought a royal Savior, but did not understand
a king could rule by loving instead of by command.
2. We heard an angry Jesus in Temple courts declare,
“Be gone, you money changers! This is a house of prayer.”
Though many came for healing and stayed to hear his word,
still others, hostile, plotted, and thus his death assured.
3. We served him at the table with wine, unleavened bread.
“The one who will betray me now eats with me,” he said.
His friends would not believe him, but one by one that night,
as soldiers came to take him, they scurried out of sight.
4. We saw a suffering Jesus alone, without a friend,
and heard the voices shouting abuse until the end.
We wept as we stood watching Love’s light grow dim and die,
and cried, “Why did this happen? God, tell us, tell us why!”

I. The Shadow of Betrayal

Psalm 41:9 – *The Prophecy of Betrayal*

Todd

Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.

Matthew 26:6-25 – *The Betrayal Fulfilled*

Now while Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment, and she poured it on his head as he sat at the table. But when the disciples saw it, they were angry and said, “Why this waste?

For this ointment could have been sold for a large sum, and the money given to the poor.” But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. By pouring this ointment on my body she has prepared me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

Then one of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I betray him to you?”

They paid him thirty pieces of silver.

And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

He said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’”

So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”

And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, “Surely not I, Lord?”

He answered, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed!

It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

Judas, who betrayed him, said, “Surely not I, Rabbi?”

He replied, “You have said so.”

Hymn

Shadows Lengthen into Night

TUNE: TENEBRAE

1. Sharing Paschal bread and wine as the daylight ebbs away,
friends at table join to dine. One of them will soon betray.
Shadows lengthen into night.
2. In a grove of olive trees underneath a darkening sky,
Jesus warns what he foresees: Peter also will deny.
Shadows lengthen into night.
3. In the garden, still and deep, those he asked to watch and pray,
Heavy-lidded, fall asleep, weary from the anxious day.
Shadows lengthen into night.
4. Deeper in the garden's chill, Jesus kneels to pray alone,
wrestling with God's holy will, crying out, “Let it be done!”
Shadows lengthen into night.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

II. The Shadow of Denial

Zechariah 13:7 – *The Prophecy of Denial*

Vicky

“Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who is my associate,” says the LORD of hosts.

Strike the shepherd, that the sheep may be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones.

From the gospels of Matthew and Luke – *The Denial Fulfilled*

Then Jesus said to them, “You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written,

‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’

Peter said to him, “Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you.”

Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times.”

Peter said to him, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.”

And so said all the disciples.

Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest’s house.

But Peter was following at a distance.

When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them.

Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, “This man also was with him.”

But he denied it, saying, “Woman, I do not know him.”

A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, “You also are one of them.”

But Peter said, “Man, I am not!”

Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, “Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.”

But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about!”

At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed.

The Lord turned and looked at Peter.

Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, “Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times.”

And he went out and wept bitterly.

Hymn

Go to Dark Gethsemane

UMH 290

1. Go to dark Gethsemane, ye that feel the tempter’s power;
your Redeemer’s conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour.
Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.
2. See him at the judgment hall, beaten, bound, reviled, arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn of Christ to bear the cross.
3. Calvary’s mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God’s own sacrifice complete.
“It is finished!” hear him cry; learn of Jesus Christ to die.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

III. The Shadow of Isolation

Psalm 31:9-14 - *The Prophecy of Isolation*

Todd

Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbors, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.

For I hear the whispering of many—terror all around!—as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, O LORD; I say, “You are my God.”

From the gospels of John and Mark - *The Isolation Fulfilled*

Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also.

Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

“Now my soul is troubled.

And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’?

No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated.

And he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.”

And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”

He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep?

Could you not keep awake one hour?

Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him.

He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?

Enough!

The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Jesus walked this lonesome valley; He had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; He had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley; we have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us; we have to walk it by ourselves.

IV. The Shadow of Accusation

Isaiah 53:7 - The Prophecy of Accusation

Vicky

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

Mark 14:53, 55-64 - The Accusation Fulfilled

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled.

Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none.

For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree.

Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'"

But even on this point their testimony did not agree.

Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

But he was silent and did not answer.

Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

Jesus said, "I am; and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power, and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses?

You have heard his blasphemy!

What is your decision?"

All of them condemned him as deserving death.

Anthem

Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

Chancel Choir

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

V. The Shadow of Suffering

Isaiah 53:1-6 - The Prophecy of Suffering

Todd

Who has believed what we have heard?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Mark 15:16-20 - *The Suffering Fulfilled*

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort.

And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him.

And they began saluting him, "Hail, King of the Jews!"

They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him.

After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him out to crucify him.

Anthem

To Mock Your Reign

Chancel Choir

Text by Fred Pratt Green; Music by Lloyd Larson

VI. The Shadow of Crucifixion

Psalm 22:1-2, 6-8, 14-18 - *The Prophecy of Crucifixion*

Vicky

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest.

But I am a worm, and not human; scorned by others, and despised by the people.

All who see me mock at me; they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;

"Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver—let him rescue the one in whom he delights!"

I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted within my breast; my mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to my jaws; you lay me in the dust of death.

For dogs are all around me; a company of evildoers encircles me.

My hands and feet have shriveled; I can count all my bones.

They stare and gloat over me; they divide my clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.

Matthew 27:31-43 - *The Crucifixion Fulfilled*

After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him.

Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross.

And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it.

And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him.

Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'"

A candle is extinguished – an element is removed from the altar

Anthem

Broken for You

Memorial Bell Choir

VII. The Shadow of Death

Exodus 12:21-23 - *The Prophecy of the Shadow of Death*

Todd

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the Passover lamb.

Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin.

None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning.

For the LORD will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down.

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

UMH 297

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.
2. Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.
3. I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Luke 23:44-46 - *The Shadow of Death Fulfilled*

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Having said this, he breathed his last.

A candle is extinguished – the final element is removed from the altar, and the altar is draped in black

1. Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (*Were you there?*)
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (*were you there?*)
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they crucified my Lord? (*were you there?*)
2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (*were you there?*)
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (*were you there?*)
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? (*were you there?*)
3. Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (*were you there?*)
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (*were you there?*)
 Oh! Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
 Were you there when they pierced him in the side? (*were you there?*)

After the Shadows

Vicky

(Read from the back of the church)

Revelation 5:6-12 - *After the Shadows...*

Then I saw between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders a Lamb standing as if it had been slaughtered, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

He went and took the scroll from the right hand of the one who was seated on the throne. When he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

They sing a new song:

“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.”

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

Bring Up Lights to Dim Level for exit

Our time of meditation ends in Silence. You are invited to stay as long as you wish, to meditate and pray.

Easter Sunday Schedule

Easter Sunday, April 21

Easter SonRise Service at the Rehoboth Bandstand

6:00 a.m.

Worship Celebration & Communion

7:45 a.m.; 9:15 a.m.; 11:15 a.m.

Special Thanks to Bianca Camiolo and Autumn Reynolds for participating in our worship this evening. Bulletins for the month of April are sponsored by Russ Mullen.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recordings may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore; you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Sound Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator - Worship Pathway:

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader:* Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Todd Shultz

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Choir Accompanist:* Linda Jo Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries:* Mickie McManamon

Manager of Facilities & Technologies: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager:* Darlene Ford

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Administrative Assistant:* Diana Young ... *Sound Tech:* Josh Megee

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery:* Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent:* Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson ... *Maintenance:* Mike Harrigan



EPWORTH
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a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

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7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary